

House
REPUBLICAN
Conference

FloorPrep

Legislative Digest

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

John Boehner
Chairman
8th District, Ohio

*House Meets at 12:30 p.m. for Morning Hour
and 2:00 p.m. for Legislative Business
(No Votes Expected Before 5:00 p.m.)*

Anticipated Floor Action:

- H.R. 849—Prohibiting Illegal Aliens from Receiving Relocation Assistance**
S.J.Res. 29—Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Addition Act
H.R. 822—Wenatchee National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act
H.R. 951—Land Conveyance in Hinsdale, Colorado
H.R. 960—Land Conveyance in Tulare, California
H.R. 1198—Land Conveyance in Grants Pass, Oregon
H.R. 1658—Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act Amendments
**H.R. 1086—Codifying Without Substantive Change Laws Related to
Transportation**
**H.R. 748—Prohibition on Financial Transactions with Countries that Support
Terrorism**
H.R. 1840—Law Enforcement Technology Advertisement Clarification Act
H.R. 1847—Telemarketing Fraud Prevention Act
**H.Res. 154—Sense of Congress Regarding the Protection of the Nation’s
Children**
H.R. 2018—Temporary Medicaid Waiver for the Better Health Plan in New York
Motion to Go to Conference on H.R. 2015 (Balanced Budget Act)
Motion to Go to Conference on H.R. 2014 (Taxpayer Relief Act)



H.R. 849—Prohibiting Illegal Aliens from Receiving Relocation Assistance

Floor Situation: The House will consider H.R. 849 under the “corrections day” procedure as its first order of business today. It is debatable for one hour, may be amended only by the chairman of

the committee of jurisdiction, and requires a three-fifths majority vote for passage. House rules provide for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Summary: H.R. 849 amends the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act (URA) of 1970 to prohibit the payment of displacement compensation to illegal aliens. CBO estimates that enactment will cost the federal government less than \$500,000. The bill was introduced by Mr. Packard and was reported by the Transportation Committee by voice vote.

Views (on the overall bill)

Republican Leadership: Supports

Chairman Shuster: Supports

Clinton Administration: No Position Available

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVI, #19, July 3, 1997.



Bills Considered Under Suspension of the Rules

Floor Situation: The House will consider the following 12 bills under suspension of the rules after it completes consideration of H.R. 849. Each is debatable for 40 minutes, may not be amended, and requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

S.J. Res. 29—Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Addition Act directs the Interior Secretary to design and construct a permanent addition to the FDR Memorial in Washington, D.C., and recognizes that President Franklin Delano Roosevelt led the country with courage and success as a disabled individual requiring the use of a wheelchair. The addition may come in the form of a statue or other similar structure. Private contributions will be raised to fund the construction of the addition. A CBO cost estimate was unavailable at press time. The bill was submitted to the Resources Committee and reported by voice vote on June 25, 1997. S.J. Res. 29 was passed by unanimous consent by the Senate on May 1, 1997.

H.R. 822—Wenatchee National Forest Boundary Adjustment removes a Forest Service boundary in order to expedite a land exchange between the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and a private party. The parcel of land in question is located within the Forest Service boundary of the Wenatchee National Forest. In order for the land exchange to occur, the boundary must be removed. However, the Forest Service does not possess the ability to remove the boundary, so congressional action is necessary. The BLM wants to acquire the 640-acre tract to consolidate their holdings adjoining the private land. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Hastings (WA) and reported by the Resources Committee by voice vote on June 25, 1997.

H.R. 951—Land Conveyance in Hinsdale, Colorado requires the Interior Secretary to convey a 560-acre tract currently managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Hinsdale County, Colorado, to Lake City Ranches, Ltd (LCR). In exchange, the BLM receives land of equal value within the Handies Peak or Red Cloud Peak Wilderness Study Areas, or the Alpine Loop Backcountry

bi-way in the county. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. McInnis and reported by the Resources Committee by voice vote on June 25, 1997.

H.R. 960—Land Conveyance in Tulare County, California transfers to the Tulare Redevelopment Agency control over the federal revisionary interest in the railroad right of way that bisects the city of Tulare, California. This bill validates the city's title to a parcel of land that it purchased from the railroad before learning that ownership of the title was in question. Furthermore, the bill gives the railroad the ability to transfer ownership of 11 additional parcels along the Union Pacific tracks to the redevelopment agency. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Thomas and reported by the Resources Committee by voice vote on June 25, 1997.

H.R. 1198—Land Conveyance in Grants Pass, Oregon directs the Interior Secretary to convey 320 acres of land in southern Oregon, currently managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), to the city of Grants Pass. The bill transfers the title and all rights and interest to the property without any monetary compensation. Furthermore, the bill indemnifies the federal government from all liability regarding the property. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Smith (OR) and reported by the Resources Committee by voice vote on June 25, 1997.

H.R. 1658—Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act Amendments reauthorizes the Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act (ASBCA; *P.L. 98-613*) through FY 2000. Under the law, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) monitors state implementation of ASMFC-developed fisheries management plans for striped bass. The bill authorizes appropriations of \$800,000 for the Commerce Secretary and \$250,000 for the Interior Secretary for each fiscal year through 2000 to carry out the law. In addition, H.R. 1658 makes several technical and conforming amendments, and requires the ASMFC to establish standards and procedures to ensure an adequate opportunity for public participation in revising its striped bass management plan. The bill establishes civil and criminal penalties for anyone violating the enforcement provisions of the law and extends authorization for a study by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service to investigate the causes of the decline (and subsequent resurgence) of the Atlantic striped bass. The bill also expands the scope of the studies to include research on the effects of environmental changes and interspecies competition on striped bass populations. CBO estimates that implementing the bill will increase federal spending by \$1 million in FY 1998 and by approximately \$3 million in each of FYs 1998-2000. The bill may affect direct spending, so pay-as-you-go procedures apply. The bill was introduced by Mr. Saxton and reported by the Resources Committee by voice vote on June 25, 1997.

H.R. 1086—Codifying Without Substantive Change Laws Related to Transportation codifies legislation already enacted which relates to Title 49 of the U.S. Code, statutes governing U.S. transportation law. H.R. 1086 does not make any significant changes to current law; the bill specifically encompasses several individual measures enacted since 1994 into one bill and codifies them permanently into Title 49. The bill includes provisions of the 1986 Metropolitan Washington Airports Act (*P.L. 99-500 and 99-591*) which were originally enacted in 1996 but never codified into Title 49. In addition, H.R. 1086 makes technical and conforming changes to Title 49. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. H.R. 1086 was introduced by Mr. Hyde and was ordered reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote on June 18, 1997.

H.R. 748—Prohibiting Financial Transactions with Countries that Support Terrorism expands provisions enacted in the 1996 Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act (*P.L. 104-132*) which outlawed U.S. citizens from conducting financial transactions with recognized terrorist states. The original measure granted authority to the administration to establish broad exceptions to this prohibition as it saw a need. The bill reverses the exceptions created by the administration and revokes the regulating authority granted under the 1996 law. H.R. 748 was introduced by Mr. McCollum and was ordered reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote on June 18, 1997.

H.R. 1840—Law Enforcement Technology Advertisement Clarification Act amends Title 18 of the U.S. Code, which outlaws the advertisement of electronic devices used to intercept, record, or eavesdrop on conversations between two people, to create a narrow exception so that surveillance technology companies can inform law enforcement personnel of their products. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. H.R. 1840 was introduced by Mr. McCollum and was ordered reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote on June 18, 1997.

H.R. 1847—Telemarketing Fraud Prevention Act increases federal criminal penalties found in Title 18 of the U.S. Code for persons convicted of committing fraudulent telemarketing schemes. The bill specifically directs the U.S. Sentencing Commission to list such crimes as general telemarketing fraud—an increase in its sentencing guidelines of four levels. The commission must increase its punishment level guidelines by eight levels for persons convicted of telemarketing crimes against anyone over 55 years of age. In addition, the bill requires that persons convicted of a fraudulent scheme must forfeit any monetary or other proceeds gained through their activities. Finally, the bill expands current law by allowing organizers of such fraudulent acts to be punished by the statute under a conspiracy charge. CBO estimates that enactment will result in less than \$500,000 in additional federal costs, subject to the availability of appropriated funds to accommodate prisoners convicted under the bill for long periods of time. H.R. 1847 was introduced by Mr. Goodlatte and was ordered reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote on June 18, 1997.

H.Res. 154—Sense of Congress Regarding the Protection of the Nation’s Children expresses the sense of the House that child abductions must be treated with the utmost seriousness and swiftness by law enforcement agencies, and that Congress is dedicated to working with these agencies to ensure that effective and appropriate measures exist to prevent crimes against children. The resolution was introduced by Mr. Collins (GA) and was reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote on June 18, 1997.

H.R. 2018—Temporary Medicaid Waiver for the Better Health Plan In New York extends the waiver on the “75/25” rule until December 31, 1998, for the Better Health Plan in Amherst, New York. The “75/25” rule prohibits a managed care organization’s enrollment from consisting of more than 75 percent of Medicaid beneficiaries. CBO estimates that enactment will not significantly effect the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Paxon and reported by the Commerce Committee by voice vote.

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVI, #19, July 3, 1997.

